

Attachment to Amendment dated December 24, 2002

Marked-up Claims 2 and 5-9

2. (Amended) The via of claim [1] 12, wherein the first and second interconnects are substantially concentric.

5. (Amended) The via of claim [1] 12, wherein a series ground inductance present in the signal [return path] net carried on the first interconnect is essentially canceled by the ground plane of the circuit carried on the second interconnect.

6. (Amended) The via of claim [1] 12, wherein the second interconnect is electrically connected to the ground plane of the circuit such that [the a signal return has] a voltage drop of the circuit [that] approaches zero.

7. (Amended) The via of claim [4] 12, [where] wherein the first plurality of conductive layers and the second plurality of conductive layers are located in a single printed circuit board.

8. (Amended) The via of claim [4] 12, [where] wherein the first plurality of conductive layers and the second plurality of conductive layers are located in a monolithically integrated set of two or more printed circuit boards.

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9. (Amended) A printed circuit board comprising:
a plurality of vias according to claim [1] 12.